



101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

HB2806

by Rep. Emanuel Chris Welch

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/10-20.59
105 ILCS 5/34-18.52

Amends the School Code. Provides that each school board shall (rather than may) appoint at least one employee to act as a liaison to facilitate the enrollment and transfer of records of students in the legal custody of the Department of Children and Family Services when enrolling in or changing schools.

LRB101 08732 AXK 53819 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

STATE MANDATES
ACT MAY REQUIRE
REIMBURSEMENT

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Sections
5 10-20.59 and 34-18.52 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/10-20.59)

7 Sec. 10-20.59. DCFS liaison.

8 (a) Each school board shall ~~may~~ appoint at least one
9 employee to act as a liaison to facilitate the enrollment and
10 transfer of records of students in the legal custody of the
11 Department of Children and Family Services when enrolling in or
12 changing schools. The school board may appoint any employee of
13 the school district who is licensed under Article 21B of this
14 Code to act as a liaison; however, employees who meet any of
15 the following criteria must be prioritized for appointment:

16 (1) Employees who have worked with mobile student
17 populations or students in foster care.

18 (2) Employees who are familiar with enrollment, record
19 transfers, existing community services, and student
20 support services.

21 (3) Employees who serve as a high-level administrator.

22 (4) Employees who are counselors or have experience
23 with student counseling.

1 (5) Employees who are knowledgeable on child welfare
2 policies.

3 (6) Employees who serve as a school social worker.

4 (b) Liaisons under this Section are encouraged to build
5 capacity and infrastructure within their school district to
6 support students in the legal custody of the Department of
7 Children and Family Services. Liaison responsibilities may
8 include the following:

9 (1) streamlining the enrollment processes for students
10 in foster care;

11 (2) implementing student data tracking and monitoring
12 mechanisms;

13 (3) ensuring that students in the legal custody of the
14 Department of Children and Family Services receive all
15 school nutrition and meal programs available;

16 (4) coordinating student withdrawal from a school,
17 record transfers, and credit recovery;

18 (5) becoming experts on the foster care system and
19 State laws and policies in place that support children
20 under the legal custody of the Department of Children and
21 Family Services;

22 (6) coordinating with child welfare partners;

23 (7) providing foster care-related information and
24 training to the school district;

25 (8) working with the Department of Children and Family
26 Services to help students maintain their school placement,

1 if appropriate;

2 (9) reviewing student schedules to ensure that
3 students are on track to graduate;

4 (10) encouraging a successful transition into
5 adulthood and post-secondary opportunities;

6 (11) encouraging involvement in extracurricular
7 activities; and

8 (12) knowing what support is available within the
9 school district and community for students in the legal
10 custody of the Department of Children and Family Services.

11 (c) (Blank). ~~A school district is encouraged to designate a~~
12 ~~liaison by the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year.~~

13 (d) Individuals licensed under Article 21B of this Code
14 acting as a liaison under this Section shall perform the duties
15 of a liaison in addition to existing contractual obligations.

16 (Source: P.A. 99-781, eff. 8-12-16; 100-201, eff. 8-18-17.)

17 (105 ILCS 5/34-18.52)

18 Sec. 34-18.52. DCFS liaison.

19 (a) The board shall ~~may~~ appoint at least one employee to
20 act as a liaison to facilitate the enrollment and transfer of
21 records of students in the legal custody of the Department of
22 Children and Family Services when enrolling in or changing
23 schools. The board may appoint any employee of the school
24 district who is licensed under Article 21B of this Code to act
25 as a liaison; however, employees who meet any of the following

1 criteria must be prioritized for appointment:

2 (1) Employees who have worked with mobile student
3 populations or students in foster care.

4 (2) Employees who are familiar with enrollment, record
5 transfers, existing community services, and student
6 support services.

7 (3) Employees who serve as a high-level administrator.

8 (4) Employees who are counselors or have experience
9 with student counseling.

10 (5) Employees who are knowledgeable on child welfare
11 policies.

12 (6) Employees who serve as a school social worker.

13 (b) Liaisons under this Section are encouraged to build
14 capacity and infrastructure within the school district to
15 support students in the legal custody of the Department of
16 Children and Family Services. Liaison responsibilities may
17 include the following:

18 (1) streamlining the enrollment processes for students
19 in foster care;

20 (2) implementing student data tracking and monitoring
21 mechanisms;

22 (3) ensuring that students in the legal custody of the
23 Department of Children and Family Services receive all
24 school nutrition and meal programs available;

25 (4) coordinating student withdrawal from a school,
26 record transfers, and credit recovery;

1 (5) becoming experts on the foster care system and
2 State laws and policies in place that support children
3 under the legal custody of the Department of Children and
4 Family Services;

5 (6) coordinating with child welfare partners;

6 (7) providing foster care-related information and
7 training to the school district;

8 (8) working with the Department of Children and Family
9 Services to help students maintain their school placement,
10 if appropriate;

11 (9) reviewing student schedules to ensure that
12 students are on track to graduate;

13 (10) encouraging a successful transition into
14 adulthood and post-secondary opportunities;

15 (11) encouraging involvement in extracurricular
16 activities; and

17 (12) knowing what support is available within the
18 school district and community for students in the legal
19 custody of the Department of Children and Family Services.

20 (c) (Blank). ~~The school district is encouraged to designate~~
21 ~~a liaison by the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year.~~

22 (d) Individuals licensed under Article 21B of this Code
23 acting as a liaison under this Section shall perform the duties
24 of a liaison in addition to existing contractual obligations.

25 (Source: P.A. 99-781, eff. 8-12-16; 100-201, eff. 8-18-17.)